

After years of hard work and commitment to the community and church, Rev. and Mrs. Cato Brooks and the members of Tree of Life started the Tree of Life Community Development Corporation and Care Center. This center is a spiritual approach to healing and helping the residents of Gary and Northwest Indiana, which began through the establishment of their first two programs: the Rehabilitation of Housing under the Homeless Initiative and Transitional Housing. New programs were later added and include the 21st Century Parents Program, the Misguided Youth and First Offenders Program, and the Homeless Initiative Programs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues, join me in honoring and congratulating Tree of Life Missionary Baptist Church on their 24th anniversary. They have given selflessly to the Gary community, as well as all of Northwest Indiana, and will continue to serve and support all members of the community through their gracious dedication and commitment.

**RECOGNIZING JAMES RILEY TITUS
BOND FOR HIS ACHIEVEMENTS
AS AN INTERN ON MY STAFF**

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mr. James Riley Titus Bond, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in national government.

Titus is a recent graduate of Rockhurst High School and will be continuing his education at Catholic University in Washington, DC. He has distinguished himself as an intern in my campaign office by serving the great people of the 6th District of Missouri. Through this internship, Titus has had the opportunity to observe firsthand the inner workings of National Government and campaign organization and has gained valuable insight into the process by which campaigns are run.

During his time as an intern in my office, Titus has successfully demonstrated his abilities in the performance of such duties as planning events, assisting in Lincoln Days, and assuming various other responsibilities to make the office run as smoothly as possible.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Mr. James Riley Titus Bond for his many important contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives during the current session, as well as joining with me to extend to him our very best wishes for continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

HONORING JAY RUSSEL

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 2003

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jay Russel, a constituent in my Fifth Congressional District.

Mr. Russel was recently named the 2003 Levy County Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Officer of the Year by his colleagues and superiors and I want to take this opportunity before this body to honor him and to say a few words about why he is deserving of this noble distinction.

Mr. Russel, has patrolled the woods and waterways of Levy, Citrus and Dixie County for more than three years, giving him a one-of-a-kind knowledge of Florida's Nature Coast and enabling him to be an excellent Conservation Commission Officer. Often coming to the aid of boaters in distress, his efforts have resulted in successful rescue and recovery missions and his "sixth sense" for detecting law violators has allowed many recreational sportsmen to continue to enjoy Florida's wetlands safely and lawfully.

Mr. Russel has been described by his colleagues as an outstanding officer with an immense knowledge of the outdoors and of the region he patrols. Area police departments and law enforcement agencies often rely on him for help in investigating illegal activity in the area and know they can count upon his support at any time.

He is truly an asset in every way to his colleagues and to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission. His superiors have said that he "exemplifies what the agency stands for—a commitment to protecting wildlife resources and to serving and protecting citizens enjoying Florida's outdoors."

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in saluting Mr. Russel and all officers of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. The work they do is invaluable and of immeasurable importance to our environment, to area wildlife and to our safety.

**A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO MILLIE
COX FOR HER YEARS OF SERVICE**

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 2003

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Millie Cox on her retirement from the Indiana Credit Union League, and to congratulate her for her many years of dedicated and tireless service.

Over the years, Millie has displayed an indomitable spirit in her work and efforts on behalf of Indiana's credit unions. She has taken time to educate and encourage credit union leaders about the legislative process and the importance of political participation. Clearly, Millie's passion for her work on behalf of Indiana's credit unions bespeaks her monumental efforts here in Washington D.C.

Millie Cox's impressive career began in February 1977, when she joined the staff of the Indiana Credit Union League. She was promoted several times, ultimately rising to Vice President of Governmental Affairs in 1986. Millie and her staff have been responsible for analyzing regulations and legislation, as well as serving as liaison between credit unions, regulatory agencies, and other government entities.

On a personal note, Millie is a long-time Hoosier, having grown up in the New Castle area with her two brothers and three sisters. She has one son, Curt, and was married for

more than twenty years to her late husband Jim. Millie and I share a great interest in history and reading in addition to our Hoosier roots.

Millie Cox's dedication to her career is evident in her own words as she states that "I believe in credit unions, I love what I do and I can't imagine working in any other industry." Millie, I congratulate you and wish you all the best. Capitol Hill won't be the same without you.

HONORING RON GIBSON

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to pay tribute to an inspiring veteran in Grand Junction, Colorado. Despite being confined to a wheelchair, Ron Gibson continues to set unprecedented athletic standards and win numerous medals in national competitions. I have great pride as I rise today to recognize Ron's athletic achievements and his service to our nation.

Ron began competing in the National Veterans Wheelchair Games 15 years ago. After participating in the Winter Sports Games in Grand Junction, Colorado in 1988, Ron fell in love with the area and subsequently relocated there. He has since lost track of the number of medals he has won, recently adding another four at the 23rd annual games in California. Each veteran who competes carries with him an inspirational story of dedication and perseverance. Ron is no exception, and I am proud to recognize his many accomplishments. All those who participate in the National Veterans Wheelchair games are military veterans who have spinal cord injuries or other disabilities that require wheelchairs.

Mr. Speaker, Ron Gibson embodies the courage and strength of spirit that have made our nation strong. I commend him for his service and all of his recent accomplishments. Congratulations, Ron. I wish you all the best with your future endeavors.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO SAINTS
CONSTANTINE AND HELEN
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 4, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I recognize and congratulate Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Merrillville, Indiana on their 90th anniversary. Throughout its 90 years, Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church has provided a welcoming worship and gathering space for all residents of Northwest Indiana.

SS Constantine and Helen and its forefathers began their foundation in Gary, Indiana in 1906 in the dream of preserving the Greek heritage and faith in America. The first steps to making this dream a reality began in the spring of 1911, when an initial meeting was held to discuss the need for a worship space